

REMARKS

Status of claims

All claims have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 as unclear for essentially syntactical reasons.

Claims 1 to 21 have been indicated allowable over the prior art if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112.

Section 112 rejections

The Examiner objected to a lack of antecedent basis for the term “the first upper hollow cylinder”. The Examiner also expressed confusion as to whether the hollow cylinder recited in the first paragraph includes just the first upper hollow cylinder or both the upper hollow cylinder and the second lower hollow cylinder, and because claim 1 recites a core rod in the first paragraph, but then later recites a second core rod.

The present amendment makes a clarifying amendment to claim 1 to remove the section 112 issues, and it is now believed to be in allowable form. This amendment is being submitted at this stage, after final action, because, although the language was present in the claims previously, the section 112 issues were only identified by the Examiner in the last office action. Entry of the amendment is therefore appropriate, and is respectfully solicited.

The present amendment clarifies the language of claim 1 so as to make it clear that the coaxial arrangement has a first core rod and a hollow cylinder structure. A second core rod is

supported on a second constriction in the first upper hollow cylinder in a second coaxial arrangement.

Claim 1 as amended clearly satisfies the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 112 and reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Dependent claims have been amended to comport syntactically with the language of claim 1 as amended. As with claim 1, these amendments were not submitted earlier because the section 112 issues were first raised by the Examiner in the last office action. Entry of this amendment is therefore respectfully requested.

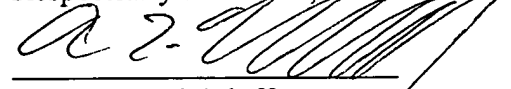
All claims having now been indicated allowable over the prior art, and all objections of the Examiner having been fully addressed, formal allowance is respectfully requested.

Should any questions arise, the Examiner is invited to telephone attorney for applicants at 212-490-3285.

Tiajolloff & Kelly LLP
Chrysler Building, 37th floor
405 Lexington Avenue
New York, NY 10174

tel. 212-490-3285
fax 212-490-3295

Respectfully submitted,



Andrew L. Tiajolloff
Registration No. 31,575